

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The invention refers to a method and an apparatus for determining characteristics of components of a communication channel. In order to simplify the inter-
5 system coordination in a beginning of life test of a satellite communication channel and avoiding the interference of adjacent satellite systems the method according to the invention comprises the following steps: modulating a clean carrier signal $f(t)$ by spread spectrum
10 modulation to generate a spreaded clean carrier signal $s(t)$; transmitting said spreaded clean carrier signal $s(t)$ through said communication channel at a first predetermined level; receiving a receive signal $s'(t)$ corresponding to said spreaded clean carrier signal $s(t)$ after having
15 traveled through said communication channel; demodulating said receive signal $s'(t)$ by spread spectrum demodulation to generate a despreaded carrier signal $f'(t)$; determining characteristics of components of the communication channel on the basis of a comparison of said clean carrier signal
20 $f(t)$ and said despreaded carrier signal $f'(t)$.

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